APHC010588602026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI **[3458]**
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

WEDNESDAY, THE 4th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32224/2026

Between:

1. GEDDAM VENU, S/O. GEDDAM MOSHE, AGED ABOUT 39 YEARS, OCC AGRICULTURE, R/O. H.NO.2-112, PIDIMGOYYA, SCHOOL STREET, MORAMPUDI RURAL, EAST GODAVARI DISTRICT.
2. ATHILI RAJU, C/O. A. CHINNA KRISHNA, AGED ABOUT 42 YEARS, OCC POLITICIAN, R/O. H.NO.1-59/1, PIDIMGOYYI, NANDI CENTRE, RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM RURAL, EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH.
3. SHAIK MEERA SAHAB, S/O. SHAIK SURA SAHAB, AGED ABOUT 40 YEARS, OCC BUSINESS, R/O. H.NO. 2-19, PIDIMGOYYI, RAJAHMUNDRY RURAL, HUKUMPETA, EAST GODAVARI DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH.

...PETITIONER(S)

AND

1. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REPRESENTED BY ITS CHIEF SECRETARY, SECRETARIAT, VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATI, GUNTUR DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH -522238.
2. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH, SECRETARIAT, VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATI, GUNTUR DISTRICT -522238.
3. THE COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH,

MANGALAGIRI, ANDHRA PRADESH - 522502.

4. THE RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, REP BY ITS COMMISSIONER, RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM - 533103.

5. THE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, 1ST FLOOR, NEW HOD BUILDING, OPP INDIRA GANDHI MUNICIPAL STADIUM, M.G. ROAD, VIJAYAWADA, ANDHRA PRADESH - 520010.

...RESPONDENT(S):

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased toissue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order, or Direction Declaring the action of Respondents in issuing G.O.Ms.No. 252, Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department, dated 12.10.2026, insofar as it reserves the office of the Mayor of Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation as Scheduled Caste (General) (Schedule-ll, Serial No. 3), and further issuance of Final Notification ROCNo.5271/2026-G1, dated 17.10.2026,to the extent of Rajamhendravaram Municipal Corporation issued by Respondents without verifying the relevant population figures, legally applicable municipal limits, reservation roster, rotation principles and all other statutory criteria governing the office of the Mayor in Rajamhendravaram Municipal Corporation as illegal, arbitrary, premature, contrary to Section 14-A of the Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations Act, 1994, read with Rules 3 and 7 of the Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations (Reservation of Offices of Mayors) Rules, 1995, and violative of Articles 14, 21, 243T, and 326 of the Constitution of India, consequently set aside G.O.Ms.No.252, Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department, dated 12.10.2026, in so far as it reserves the office of the May or of Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation as Scheduled Caste (General) (Schedule-ll, Serial No.3), and further issuance of Final Notification ROC.No.5271/2026-G1, dated 17.10.2026, to the extent of Rajamhendravaram Municipal Corporation and further Directing Respondents to under take afresh computation and re-determine the reservation of the office of May or of the Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation strictly in accordance with Section 14-A of the Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations Act, 1994, and Rule 7 of the 1995 Rules, based on the lawfully determined population and territorial limits of the Corporation following the valid completion of the ward delimitation process by duly afford a personal hearing to the Petitioners and other affected residents who submit

objections/suggestions, pass a reasoned and speaking order considering all objections and suggestions received, and republish the Final Notification and completing the entire delimitation process strictly in accordance with law

IA NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased stay the operation and implementation of G.O.Ms.No.252, Municipal Administration & Urban Development Department, dated 12.10.2026 Development Department, dated 12.10.2026, in so far as it relates to the reservation of the office of the May or of Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation as Scheduled Caste (General) at Serial No.3 of Schedule-ll; and the Final Notification ROC No. 5271/2026-G1, dated 17.10.2026, issued by Respondent No. 4, particularly to the extent of Rajamhendravaram Municipal corporation pending disposal of the above writ petition

IA NO: 2 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased Direct the respondent No. 5 not to notify the election to the office of May or of Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation on the basis of the reservation contained in Serial No.3 of Schedule-ll of G.O.Ms.No.252 until the representation dated 12.10.2026 is disposed of by areas one order, or until further orders of this Hon'ble Court pending disposal of the present Writ Petition

Counsel for the Petitioner(S):

1. REGULAGADDA VENKATESH

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
2. GP MUNCIPAL ADMN AND URBAN DEV AP

The Court made the following:

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32224/2026

ORDER:-

Heard Sri Regulagadda Venkatesh, learned counsel for the petitioners; learned Government Pleader for Municipal Administration and Urban Development, appearing for respondent Nos.2 & 3; and Sri N. Ashwini Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for the State Election Commission appearing for respondent No.5.

2. Challenging the G.O.Ms.No.252, dated 12.10.2026, reserving the office of the Mayor of Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation for the Scheduled Castes (General). It is contended that the said G.O. was issued even before the notification for merger of 10 Gram Panchayats was issued, without taking into consideration the population figures of the respective 10 Gram Panchayats. Challenging the said decision, the instant Writ Petition has been filed.

3. The contention of the petitioners is that the reservation was fixed vide G.O.Ms.No.252, dated 12.10.2026, even before the merger of the subject Gram Panchayats on 13.10.2026. Learned counsel further submits that the petitioners submitted a representation to respondent Nos.1 to 4 on 19.10.2026, pointing out the said discrepancy and seeking reconsideration of their decisions.

4. In the light of the same, learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submits that, since the matter is pending consideration before the authorities, a direction may be issued to respondent No. 2 to pass appropriate orders on the representation.

5. When the matter has been taken up for consideration, the learned Government Pleader appearing for respondents 2 & 3 has placed before the Court a copy of the instructions received by him in the case. The same are taken on record. A perusal of the same would reflect that the population of the subject merged villages was also taken into consideration while fixing the subject reservation.

6. It is further stated therein that, by the common order dated 01.10.2026 in W.P.No.19118 of 2021 and batch, the validity of Act No. 5 of 2021 and the statutory mechanism for inclusion of the specified Gram Panchayats have been upheld by the Division Bench of this Court. Accordingly, the 10 Gram Panchayats covered by the said Amendment Act forms part of the jurisdiction of RMC. Therefore, their population was duly included in the total population for the purpose of finalizing the reservation to the office of Mayor. Hence, the specific allegation of the petitioner that the population of the 10 merged Gram Panchayats was excluded while determining the reservation to the office of Mayor of RMC is factually incorrect, and the same does not merit for further consideration.

7. Having regard to the rival contentions, and since the representation of the petitioners is pending consideration before respondent No.2, respondent No.2 is directed to pass appropriate orders on the representation of the petitioners within a period of one (1) week from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. Such orders shall be passed before any election notification for conducting elections in respect of the subject Municipal Corporation is issued.

8. With the above observations, the Writ Petition is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

As a sequel, miscellaneous applications pending, if any, shall also stand closed.

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JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

Date: 04.11.2026
MVK

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32224/2026

Date:04.11.2026

MVK